GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2820
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2007
COLLABORATION ON SURVEILLANCE OF DISEASES
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has entered into any agreement with any countries to collaborate on surveillance of dreaded diseases; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the role of the NGOs in regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT.PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(b) The Government of India has signed a Joint Statement with USA, bilateral Agreements/ Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the Governments of Fiji Islands, Saudi Arabia and Turkmenistan on a number of issues including surveillance of diseases. In addition to the above, the Indian Council of Medical Research has similarly signed MoU with France and Canada. The Joint Collaborative research projects in the identified areas of cooperation are undertaken by Indian and foreign scientists after necessary approval from the competent authority/committees. Under "Call for Proposals" scheme of ICMR, any Research Institute, whether Public, Private or NGO, can submit research proposals to be implemented in collaboration with any other country, subject to review by Indian and Foreign agencies and scrutiny by Health Ministry's Screening Committee, before approval. As the primary focus is on early reporting of epidemic prone diseases, reporting from all the sectors including private hospitals, practitioners and NGOs is encouraged under Integrated Diseases Surveillance Project of the Government.